

HISTORY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH *of the* COVENANT

GREENSBORO, N. C.

1906 - 1945

By

COLVIN T. LEONARD



HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

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A Man Had A Vision



THE narrative of the first 39 years of *The PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE COVENANT* might be related as an answer to the question, "What if the church had not been organized?" Yet, that is a negative approach, and one cannot write negatively about a church with such a positive program.

Our story goes back beyond the dawn of this century—back to a Sunday afternoon in November, 1894. Dr. Jacob Henry Smith, then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, and others had been guests at dinner. The minister was walking with a young college girl as the party went leisurely from the home of their hosts, on their way across town to an afternoon service at Westminster Presbyterian Church. When they reached a point not far distant from the State Normal and Industrial College and Greensboro Female College, the minister paused momentarily.

"Some day," Dr. Smith remarked, "we want to build a church out here that will serve these colleges and the people in this part of the city."

This was not a spontaneous comment by the minister, for it was inspired by a vision of a field of great opportunity. The noble church which stands here today proves how wisely Dr. Smith dreamed. Even had the elderly minister been permitted to see his dream realized, he would have been surprised by the manner in which his vision has become a reality.

Although eleven years passed before anything more definite was done about the matter, the Presbyterian Church was not blind to the opportunity for service, as well as the need, in the growing college community in the western part of Greensboro. Other denominations had crystallized their visions of opportunity into action, and had built churches to minister to the college students and faculty members.

Then a joint meeting of the First and Westminster Churches was called, following a conference between the pastors, and when this meeting was over definite steps had been taken to organize a Presbyterian Church at a spot convenient to the two colleges. On May 25th, 1905, the building committee, named by the sessions of the First and Westminster Churches, held its first meeting "under instructions to build a church to cost about \$2,500". This challenging assignment materialized a little more than a year later, and when the committee held its final meeting in June, 1906, a Presbyterian Church, to serve the college community, had been shaped from a vision into a reality.

The little frame church which was erected on the southeast corner of Walker Avenue and South Mendenhall Street differed little in its physical appearance from the modest churches which are so much a part of the American scene. The fact that it had seating accommodations for about 250 persons indicated the faith and confidence of its builders in the growth of the church.

A lot of spiritual preparation also went into the founding of the church. In April, 1906, a Sunday School had been started by a committee appointed by the sessions of the two sponsoring churches, and in May a series of evangelistic services had been held in the little church. Then a petition, signed by 69 persons, requested that the Walker Avenue Presbyterian Church be organized "for the glory of God and the spread of His Kingdom".

The church property was turned over debt-free to the new congregation after the indebtedness had been met with gifts and subscriptions from the mother church and from individual members and residents of the community to be served. A report to the joint session of the sponsoring churches showed that the total cost of the work carried on under the direction of the building committee was \$4,765.36. That expenditure included the cost of the lot and building, various necessary fixtures, grass seed, lawn hose, and "even the salary of a janitor for a week".

Soon after the new congregation had been organized and named two elders and one deacon, a committee was named to "investigate the practicability of getting a minister". The committee's investigation resulted in a call being extended to Robert Murphy Williams, then a young minister serving as evangelist for the Wilmington Presbytery of the Synod of North Carolina. Mr. Williams accepted and came to Greensboro in July, 1906, and was installed as Pastor of Walker Avenue Presbyterian Church on September 30th, 1906.

And The Two Laboured Well . . .

The achievements of the past 39 years are uncontradictable proof of the congregation's wisdom and sound judgment in the selection of its pastor. Today the influential PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE COVENANT is a living tribute to the dynamic leadership, long range vision and unselfish spirit of service to mankind found in the church's first pastor, who will soon retire from the active ministry.

The church was fortunate not only in securing "R. Murphy" as its pastor but also in having a fine and noble Christian woman as their minister's wife. It is no reflection upon "Parson" to record that Mrs. Williams, truly the ideal for a minister's wife, has made her own rich contributions to the community's spiritual welfare and betterment. The church's influence upon the lives and characters of hundreds of men, women and children through the past 39 years proves how well this godly couple has served.

It is often difficult to look at a finished—or nearly complete—work and realize fully what it represents in labor, love and tears. This is true when we come to review the church's history up to this time. Those first years in the life of the church were marked by struggle and sacrifice, and even in the more lush years the going has not always been easy. Yet, through it all the same spirit of determination, faith and sacrifice have achieved more and more difficult objectives.

The church began with actually only about 50 members, although 69 persons had petitioned for its organization. When Mr. Williams began his ministry here he found that several of the petitioners had died or removed from the community. The small flock of men and women who remained had stout hearts and unshakable faith for the task ahead. Minister and congregation set as their goal the creation of a church dedicated to service.

Women are usually the most aggressive supporters of worthwhile movements and organizations. So it is no surprise to find that soon after the church was organized a group of women met and formed a Missionary Society and a Ladies Aid. Meanwhile, the Sunday School was making definite progress with an increasing enrollment, and three extra classrooms were soon added to the little church. A group of boys even built a shack in the church yard as their classroom. Other organizations included a young ladies missionary society, the Covenant-

ers and Sunbeams, composed of boys and girls who met on Sunday afternoons for instruction in missions and other phases of church work. Later these groups were merged into the Lydia Circle for business women and the Christian Endeavor Societies for the children and young people.

The young church grew steadily stronger, and eight months after its founding was ready to support itself without assistance from the mother churches. This was true, despite the adverse financial conditions resulting from the panic of 1907, when scrip was used. Two years later—in November, 1909—the little church was dedicated free of all debts. By 1910 the congregation had not only purchased lots adjacent to the church and a house and lot for the manse, as well as new equipment for the church, and made donations to local and church benevolences, but had also pledged to support its own missionary in the foreign field.

Meanwhile—in October, 1909, to be specific—the name of the church had been changed to the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE COVENANT.

Within the next few years the church lost several of its officers and most loyal supporters, some of whom had died while others had moved away. Then, for six months in 1913, the pastor was on leave of absence to head a financial campaign to save Barium Springs Orphanage. An interesting sidelight is the fact that this campaign exceeded its goal of \$50,000 by \$25,000.

Despite these handicaps the church continued its development, and by January, 1914, the congregation had so outgrown its church home that a new structure was necessary. At the morning service on January 25th, 1914, the pastor delivered a message from the text: "So built we the wall . . . for the people had a mind to work" (Neh. 4:6). A congregational meeting followed this service and the pastor's faith in his people was justified by a decision to erect a new building.

The estimated cost of the building proposed in the plans accepted by the building committee was \$50,000, which seemed like a heavy burden for the small congregation to assume. However, the members were determined that they should have a church adequate for the challenging opportunities of service.

Neither War Nor Rumors of War . . .

War broke out in Europe a few days after the contract had been let for the new building, and construction activities were delayed several weeks due to unsettled conditions caused by the war. However, the construction began as soon as practicable, and an interesting fact is that the winter's heaviest snow was the setting for the cornerstone laying on March 8th, 1915.

The old building had been given in August, 1914, to Glenwood, a section in the southwestern part of Greensboro without a Presbyterian church. So the congregation held regular services in the old Training School Building of Woman's College while the new building was being erected. On November 28th, 1915, the first service was held in the new church home.

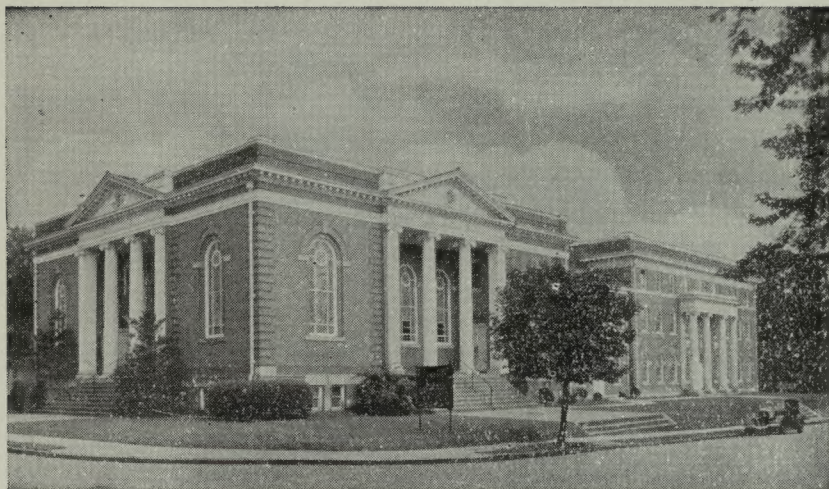
This was an important and significant occasion, not only for the congregation but also for the religious life of Greensboro. It caused this comment in a Greensboro newspaper: "In a spirit of thankfulness, and moved by pride and gratitude, the pastor and congregation, with hundreds of friends, worshipped in the new CHURCH OF THE COVENANT. A wonder of sacrifice, hope and faith is embodied in this achievement of a comparatively small band. The growth of this church . . . constitutes an important chapter in the church annals of Greensboro."

When the financial aspects of the building program had been under consideration, business experts had predicted that it would take 20 years for the congregation to pay off the contracted debt. Just how wrong these individuals were in their predictions was suggested when the congregation assembled on May 14th, 1916, to dedicate the new building and to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the church. Referring to a debt of \$15,000 remaining on the building the pastor told the congregation that "we are not afraid to assume our debt because of our faith in God and in our people and in the friends who have been so kind". This consistent faith of the pastor was justified again four years later when the last bond of indebtedness was burned—several years earlier than the experts had forecast.

With the entry of the United States into the war in April, 1917, the congregation under the leadership of its pastor accepted the challenge born of the emergency. The church's service flag bore 44 stars. The



R. J. Murphy Williams



THE PRESENT MODERN CHURCH PLANT

pastor was granted a leave of absence to accept a call to work among the men at Camp Jackson, S. C. (from October, 1918, until January, 1919).

Through all the years of his ministry Mr. Williams was moved by a deep conviction concerning the church's obligation to serve mankind for the glory of God. His experiences at Camp Jackson reaffirmed this conviction. For, at the army camp, he gained firsthand knowledge of the various types of service rendered by religious organizations for the soldiers. These impressions caused the pastor to envision the day when his church should undertake similar service to the city and community on a seven-day basis. Through the years that have followed the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT has, through its open church program, established a wide and favorable reputation as "the church that serves."

"We seek to glorify God by serving His people," Mr. Williams recently commented in discussing the church's program. "This has and is being done through social service as an expression of religion."

This program of social service was initiated with money contributed by individuals, many of whom were not members of the congregation but who thought well of the possibilities. A church nurse was first employed, and her work of mercy succored the entire community without regard for denominational lines. This ministry of nursing was

particularly noteworthy during the flu epidemics of 1918 and 1920, and a nurse was a regular member of the church staff until the City of Greensboro took over this type of work. When the flu epidemics raged, the pastor offered the church for hospital purposes but regular hospital facilities proved adequate. Symbolic of this program of social service are two rolling chairs, two hospital beds and a dozen pairs of crutches, made available by the church for emergency needs in the community.

As time passed the Church Staff was increased to include a hostess, a secretary, summer assistant pastor, and director of religious education, as well as a minister of music and a church organist. There is no more important phase of the church's program than the work being done among the students of the two colleges. This was a logical development since the vision behind the organization of the church sprang from realization of this opportunity for service. Financial assistance has been rendered, first, by the General Assembly through its Committee of Christian Education, and the Home Missions Board of the Synod of North Carolina, and later by the Synod's Committee on Student Work. It has been an investment in young womanhood which has enriched the life of the entire State. Many of the college students who have come under the influence of this phase of the church's program have become religious workers.

New Trails Blazed

The CHURCH OF THE COVENANT has been a pioneer in many things. For instance, it organized in 1920 the first Daily Vacation Bible School in North Carolina. In the summers that have followed this has been a part of the church program. Here again it has been the aim to serve the entire community rather than merely the church itself.

In line with this dominant factor of service, the church has consistently and actively supported all community activities and character-building programs. Boy and Girl Scout and other youth organizations, fostered by the church, have made outstanding contributions to the life of the community and city.

One of the happiest events on the church calendar is the party given each year for the elderly people of the community. It is an

occasion looked forward to each year with keen anticipation by these men and women for whom the sands of time are running low.

There is nothing stable about a growing thing, and the expanding activities of the church with its greatly increased membership created the necessity for even larger accommodations. The need for an educational building was visualized, and in 1936 the construction was undertaken and a campaign launched to raise the money. The work was completed in 1937, and much of the equipment and furnishings for the beautiful new building was donated by members and friends of the church.

This building cost a lot of money, and once again the congregation assumed a heavy indebtedness. The financing plan worked out called for liquidation of the debt within 15 years, but once again the financial experts were "off the beam". For, within three years the debt had been wiped out, and Mr. Williams was the prime engineer in raising all this money.

Today the church property is worth an estimated \$250,000 and the congregation includes 858 members. These are impressive figures, but the true worth of the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT cannot properly be measured in terms of cold statistics. The proper yardstick to apply is that which gauges the church's contributions to the spiritual and religious life of Greensboro and to remote places. One thinks of many young men, now serving important ministerial assignments, whose training included their experience as summer assistant pastor in this church. One reflects upon the strong Christian characters that have been moulded by the pastor's weekly messages and his counsel and home visitations, and by the example and leadership of the church school's teachers and officials.

The CHURCH OF THE COVENANT, in the purely physical aspect, is one of the best equipped churches in North Carolina. Yet, even more notable is the fact that it is a church in which the possibilities in men and women have been discovered and used to advantage in the advancement of God's Kingdom on earth. The life of Greensboro and the state has been enriched by the work and influence of scores of men and women who have been trained to leadership in different phases of the church's program.

Characterized by liberalism and a spirit of warm fellowship, the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT is more of a community church

than a Presbyterian Church, in the strict sense of the word. One finds here a spirit of tolerance that is lacking in many churches.

Once again our nation is at war, and the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT is meeting fully its share of the home front responsibilities. The church's service flags bear 246 stars, and 5 of the men thus honored have made the supreme sacrifice. Service men and women visiting in the community are made to feel at home in the church, and many have taken an active part in its activities. The open house for the service men and women has brought hundreds of young people together for wholesome fellowship and entertainment. This program is assisted, to some extent, by the Defense Service Council.

"Parson" Williams has been more than pastor of a single congregation; his parish has been limited only by the opportunities for Christian service and leadership. So it was only logical that the first—and significantly enough, to this date, the only—citizenship award should go to him. On the plaque presented at the 57th annual meeting of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce in 1934, these words are inscribed: "Conferred upon Rev. R. Murphy Williams in recognition of his unselfish civic service."

The achievements of the first 39 years have been magnificent, but the future holds opportunities for equally as great accomplishments. Faith has been strengthened by what has been done. Strong leadership has fixed the course for the years ahead. The opportunities for service will multiply with the advancing years; and, if those who follow are true to their heritage, there will be no turning away from the task.

The young minister, who assumed his pastorate 39 years ago with a consecrated determination to make the church one that truly serves, will soon relinquish his pastoral duties. His 77 years have been spent unselfishly and strenuously in the furtherance of God's Kingdom. His ministry has richly blessed thousands. The world is definitely a much better place because of his life.

Soon a new pastor will come to the congregation. Dr. Joseph M. Garrison, one of the most outstanding Presbyterian ministers of the South, is admirably qualified for the work that he is about to undertake. Under his leadership and with the loyal and sacrificial support of the congregation, the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT is destined to move steadily forward in the glorification of God and service to mankind.

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY



Pastor R. MURPHY WILLIAMS

Pastor's Assistant—MRS. COTHRAN G. SMITH

Student Secretary and Director of Religious Education—MRS. EDGAR ALLRED

Church Secretary and Assistant Treasurer—MRS. H. J. WILLIAMS

Treasurer—L. CARROLL ATKISSON

Minister of Music—CLARENCE O. SOUTHERN

Organist—MRS. L. A. CRAWFORD

Sexton—DAVID M. DANSBY

THE SESSION

REV. R. MURPHY WILLIAMS, Moderator

I. C. CRAWFORD, Clerk

Edgar Allred
A. O. Arvin
V. L. Atkins
Dr. W. S. Barney
Jas. N. Benton
W. S. Berryhill
Dr. R. M. Buie
J. S. Cheek
W. B. Clement
H. L. Coble

John C. Cutts
Thos. R. Foust
C. W. Fowler
J. A. Highsmith
T. B. Hinton
A. R. Hunter
E. G. Jones
Joe W. Matthews
J. A. McIver

G. C. McKaughan
E. L. Neal
Stokes S. Rawlins
Dr. P. A. Shelburne
Robt. A. Sills
Dr. H. F. Starr
W. H. Sullivan
Dr. A. F. Thiel
R. E. Zimmerman

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

G. V. McNeill, *Chairman*
J. C. Malcolm, *Vice-Chairman*

Geo. E. Ready, *Secretary*
L. C. Atkisson, *Treasurer*

O. R. Brockmann
W. F. Brower
John W. Caffey
D. H. Cashwell
O. P. Clutts
Floyd H. Craft
L. A. Crawford
W. Y. Farrell

A. Lee Forbis
Henry P. Foust
W. Dick Hinton
Dr. Herbert Kimmel
L. E. Lovings
J. F. Harrington, Jr.
Geo. F. McMillan
Dr. L. S. Ritchie

R. E. Sample
Victor W. Stout
W. P. Turner
H. J. Williams
J. M. Wood
R. R. Wright
W. T. Hinton
J. H. Stainback—
Non-Resident

COVENANT MEN'S CLUB

J. F. Harrington, Jr., *President*
L. A. Crawford, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Geo. E. Ready, *Co-Ordinator of Group Leaders*

R. R. Wright, *1st Vice-President*
W. B. CLEMENT, *2nd Vice President*

THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Mrs. G. I. Cornwell, *President*
Mrs. Grover C. Cox, *Vice-President*
Mrs. N. W. Kirkman, *General Chairman of Circles*

Mrs. W. H. Fisher, *Recording Secretary*
Mrs. D. Cockman, *Treasurer*

THE CHURCH SCHOOL

General Superintendent, John W. Caffey
Superintendent of Leadership Training, Dr. L. S. Ritchie
Superintendent of Attendance and Offering, Victor W. Stout

DEPARTMENTAL SUPERINTENDENTS

Nursery
Beginners
Primary
Junior

Mrs. J. Y. Marsh
Mrs. Z. N. Holler
Cora Swaim
Mrs. H. Luther Blue, Jr.

Intermediate
Senior
Young People
Adult

Mrs. Geo. Howard, Jr.
Lucile Shelburne
W. B. Clement

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DIVISIONS

Intermediate Department:
Eddie Lovings, *President*
Pioneer Vespers: Billy Ledford, *President*
Senior Department:
Z. N. Holler, Jr., *President*

Senior League: Jack Lewis, *President*
Youth Fellowship:
Mary Ellen Lewis, *President*
Westminster Fellowship:
Elizabeth Evans, *President*

"MURPHY'S THERE"

The Following Are Some Verses Written By Professor W. H. Livers,
Dedicated to R. Murphy Williams—Which Reveals
Some of "R. Murphy's" Activities:

*If there's trouble in your home
Murphy's there:
If bad luck to you has come
Murphy's there:
No one knows how he gets "wise",
But to dodge him no one tries,
No matter where the trouble lies
Murphy's there.*

*If you seem down in your luck
Murphy's there:
If you lose your grit and pluck
Murphy's there:
He will help renew your grip,
Back to faith he'll lead the trip,
He'll not let you slide or slip
Murphy's there.*

*If you find you've lost your job,
Murphy's there:
To help you be brave, not sob—
Murphy's there:
He'll not let you feel too bad,
He'll keep you gay, not sad
That he's been there, you are glad
Murphy's there.*

*If you have to go to jail,
Murphy's there:
Need him, outside society's pale
Murphy's there:
He still treats you like a man,
On discouragements he puts a ban
Help you get back to your clan
Murphy's there.*

*If on sick bed you lie low
Murphy's there:
When nurses softly come and go
Murphy's there:
If hard treatment you must take
Even though the body breaks
When all others fear and quake
Murphy's there.*

*When it comes to kissing babies,
Murphy's there:
When it comes to greeting ladies,
Murphy's there:
Eut he's strongest with his men
He's no "pink tea" pastor then
When pleas sent by tongue or pen
Murphy's there.*

*If a crisis you go through
Murphy's there:
Be you gentile, black or Jew
Murphy's there:
Be this crisis great or small
Be you short or be you tall
If you're "riding for a fall"
Murphy's there.*

*When it comes to knowing God
Murphy's there:
When telling us the path we trod
Murphy's there:
A fearless messenger is he,
No pussy-footing, but we
Love him for the truth we see,
Murphy's there.*

*When we get to heaven's gate,
Murphy's there:
For his flock he'll stand and wait
Murphy's there:
He will welcome in his band
Be there with his glad right hand
Where the many stoned crowns stand
Murphy's there.*

Composed by W. H. Livers, an Elder in the Church of the Covenant.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of the COVENANT

CORNER WALKER AVENUE AND SOUTH MENDENHALL STREET
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA



STAFF

Pastor R. MURPHY WILLIAMS

Pastor's Assistant—MRS. COTHRAN G. SMITH

Student Secretary and Director of Religious Education—MRS. EDGAR ALLRED

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Minister of Music—CLARENCE O. SOUTHERN

Organist—MRS. L. A. CRAWFORD

Sexton—DAVID M. DANSBY



A PRAYER

To be used on entering the Church

O God, Thou source of all pure desires and holy affections; give me now a quiet mind and a reverent and devout heart, that I may worthily worship Thee at this time.—Amen.

Morning Worship

11:15 A. M.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 1945

PRELUDE "Festival Hymn on Chorale 'St Anne' " --- Homer Bartlett
CALL TO WORSHIP

* PROCESSIONAL Hymn 194 (Standing)

INVOCATION

* DOXOLOGY

* HYMN 281 (Seated)

SCRIPTURE

PRAYER AND RESPONSE

* HYMN 88 (Standing)

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS, Baptisms, Announcements

OFFERTORY-ANTHEM "Sanctus" Gounod
Soloist, Mrs. Harold Gavin

SERMON Dr. Ben R. Lacy, Jr.

RECESSIONAL Hymn 339 (Standing)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Onward, Ye People" Jean Sibelius

**Ushers will seat latecomers during this part of worship. The congregation
will follow the order of service without announcement from the pulpit.*

On Duty At the Mendenhall Door After Service Today

Chas. J. Brockmann

J. A. McIver



BASKET SUPPER - 5:30

The CHURCH OF THE COVENANT is having a family reunion today in honor of its first and only pastor, Rev. R. Murphy Williams. We trust every member of the congregation will bring a packed basket and their family to the church at 5:30 this evening. Supper will be spread in the Fellowship Hall with vesper service following at 7 o'clock in the church auditorium. Dr. Lacy will bring us a special message.

RED CROSS DAY

Tuesday is "CHURCH OF THE COVENANT DAY" in Red Cross Work Rooms.

RETIREMENT INCOME FUND

The Retirement Income Fund for Mr. and Mrs. R. Murphy Williams is progressing, but we are still far from our goal. If you plan to give to this fund, please do so right away. They have done a very fine service for our church and community, and we can think of no finer way to show our appreciation than that of providing for their sunset years. Let us honor Mr. Williams' 77th birthday by finishing this task of raising \$23,500.00.

COMMUNION - NEXT SUNDAY

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper will be observed in this church next Sunday morning.



An Appreciation

Today we celebrate the 39th anniversary of the founding of our church and the successful completion of 39 years of distinguished service by its first and only pastor, R. Murphy Williams.

We take note of that record of service on this occasion, and, as we honor him for his unselfish and untiring work, we likewise pay tribute to Mrs. Williams, who, in her quiet and unassuming manner, has contributed so richly to his life and the life of the church. Their combined labors here have called for clear vision, constant effort, abundant faith and stout courageous hearts.

The marvelous record attained by this congregation shows how well their leadership has inspired others to take up the cause of Christ. From a modest beginning in 1906 our church has grown from a charter membership of 69 to a present day membership of 858; from a physical plant with approximately \$4500.00 to one now valued at \$250,000.00; from an unknown, untried church to one which is renowned throughout the southland for its outstanding and unprecedented achievements in the service of God and mankind.

Every day finds this church more firmly rooted in the life and well being of our city. Every setting sun finds Mr. and Mrs. Williams more deeply enshrined in the hearts of those whom they have sought to serve.

Such is the record of a well designed, well executed program in which faith, hope, love, sacrifice and understanding have known no bounds.

W. H. SULLIVAN,
Representing Church Officers

Evening Worship

7:00 P. M.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 1945

PRELUDE "Benedictus" Max Reger

DOXOLOGY

INVOCATION

HYMNS: 191—41—285

SCRIPTURE

PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY-ANTHEM "Gloria In Excelsis" Mozart

MEDITATION Dr. Ben R. Lacy, Jr.

RECESSIONAL Hymn 458 (Standing)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Grand Chorus on Credo III" Biggs



DR. BEN R. LACY, Jr.

On this important day, to members of the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT, it is a distinct honor to have Dr. Ben R. Lacy, Jr., President of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., to bring us the messages. Dr. Lacy needs no introduction to this congregation for he is known not only for his work among our Seminary students, but as a great Christian leader.

ANNIVERSARY FLOWERS

Dr. and Mrs. John D. Robinson have enhanced the beauty of our workshop by placing the lovely flowers on the altar today. It is particularly fitting that Mrs. Robinson should thus honor her father (our Pastor) on his 77th birthday.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

On our 39th anniversary of our church's organization we extend a most cordial welcome to those joining our church family this morning. We want you not only to feel at home but to know that we consider you a vital part of an ongoing program. A happy member of any church is a busy member. We want you to be exceedingly happy in your church relationship here. Won't you let us know in what phase of the work you are interested?

CHURCH HISTORY

At the request of the officers of this church, Mr. Colvin T. Leonard has beautifully written "A HISTORY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE COVENANT." This will be of interest to members and friends. Copies are available today.

"A Church That Serves"

Throughout the past 39 years the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT has had as its main objective to serve its Lord and Master by administering to the needs of all mankind. Not only has it cared for the spiritual nurture of man's soul, but it has also followed the example of our blessed Saviour in administering to the physical infirmities of man. The church maintains two hospital beds, two wheel chairs, and several pairs of crutches for use without charge. The doors of this church are open seven days a week to serve the community. We sponsor four Scout troops and other kindred organizations. College students find here a warm and hearty welcome, and a well planned program to interest them. Over six thousand men in the service of our country, passing through our city and visiting our church, have found a genuine Christian fellowship. These are only a few of the avenues of service that this church renders.

"A CHURCH THAT SERVES" allows nothing to thwart its purpose. Even the world struggle in which we are now engaged has not been allowed to hinder but rather has intensified this spirit. The 246 stars on our service flags constantly remind us of the service and sacrifice our men and women are giving that the world might be a better place in which to live. Surely we at home can do no less than to continue to give, work and pray for the building of the Kingdom. Let us see to it that, with God's help, the CHURCH OF THE COVENANT will always be known as "A CHURCH THAT SERVES."

Prayer: Our Father, as a congregation, we bow before Thee in humility, yet with joy and gladness of heart for the way in which Thou hast led us, for the provision Thou hast made for us, and for the opportunity Thou hast given us to serve Thee and Thy people. As we face the unknown future grant us faith, patience and strength to measure up to its great responsibilities.

"And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

"Through Jesus Christ, our Lord - - - Amen."

CHURCH DIRECTORY

THE SESSION

REV. R. MURPHY WILLIAMS, Moderator

I. C. CRAWFORD, Clerk

Edgar Allred
A. O. Arvin
V. L. Atkins
Dr. W. S. Barney
Jas. N. Benton
W. S. Berryhill
Dr. R. M. Buie
J. S. Cheek
W. B. Clement
H. L. Coble

John C. Cutts
Thos. R. Foust
C. W. Fowler
J. A. Highsmith
T. B. Hinton
A. R. Hunter
E. G. Jones
Joe W. Matthews
J. A. McIver

G. C. McKaughan
E. L. Neal
Stokes S. Rawlins
Dr. P. A. Shelburne
Robt. A. Sills
Dr. H. F. Starr
W. H. Sullivan
Dr. A. F. Thiel
R. E. Zimmerman

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J. C. Malcolm, *Vice-Chairman*

Geo. E. Ready, *Secretary*
L. C. Atkisson, *Treasurer*

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W. F. Brower
John W. Caffey
D. H. Cashwell
O. P. Clutts
Floyd H. Craft
L. A. Crawford
W. Y. Farrell

A. Lee Forbis
Henry P. Foust
W. Dick Hinton
Dr. Herbert Kimmel
L. E. Lovings
J. F. Harrington, Jr.
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Dr. L. S. Ritchie

R. E. Sample
Victor W. Stout
W. P. Turner
H. J. Williams
J. M. Wood
R. R. Wright
W. T. Hinton
J. H. Stainback—
Non-Resident

COVENANT MEN'S CLUB

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L. A. Crawford, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Geo. E. Ready, *Co-Ordinator of Group Leaders*

R. R. Wright, *1st Vice-President*
W. B. CLEMENT, *2nd Vice President*

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Mrs. G. I. Cornwell, *President*
Mrs. Grover C. Cox, *Vice-President*

Mrs. W. H. Fisher, *Recording Secretary*
Mrs. D. Cockman, *Treasurer*

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General Superintendent, John W. Caffey
Superintendent of Leadership Training, Dr. L. S. Ritchie
Superintendent of Attendance and Offering, Victor W. Stout

DEPARTMENTAL SUPERINTENDENTS

Nursery
Beginners
Primary
Junior

Mrs. J. Y. Marsh
Mrs. Z. N. Holler
Cora Swaim
Mrs. H. Luther Blue, Jr.

Intermediate
Senior
Young People
Adult

Mrs. Geo. Howard, Jr.
Lucile Shelburne
W. B. Clement

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DIVISIONS

Intermediate Department:
Eddie Lovings, *President*
Pioneer Vespers: Billy Ledford, *President*
Senior Department:
Z. N. Holler, Jr., *President*

Senior League: Jack Lewis, *President*
Youth Fellowship:
Mary Ellen Lewis, *President*
Westminster Fellowship:
Elizabeth Evans, *President*

PASTOR'S AID CARD

Newcomer to the city	Desires to unite with Church	Moved to Address Below	Sickness		
(Please check space and deposit upon offering plate)					
Name.....					
Address.....					

